



www.essendon.herts.sch.uk
01707 261209
admin@essendon.herts.sch.uk

Friday 12th January 2024

Our Value This Half Term: Love Others

Dear Essendon Families,

Spring into the Spring Term!

Welcome to the Spring Term and the New Year!



It will be a new year with new challenges and new adventures. January can feel like a time for a fresh start,

a new beginning. Some of us may have made new year resolutions, some of us may feel a bit more grown-up this year and be ready to take on new experiences. Let's take some time to think about what 2024 could mean for us, a brand new 12 months of life to be lived. How exciting! And as we come back together as Team Essendon let's remember The Essendon Way, being kind and respectful to each other is so important and makes everything work well. Take time to listen to each other and problem solve whenever you can. Happy 2024 to everyone!

Epiphany



EPIPHANY

A Celebration of the Arrival of the Magi

Revd Alan came over from Hertford St Andrews to tell us all about the Festival of Epiphany which is celebrated on 6th January. He told us that Epiphany is the time when the Wise Men came to visit Jesus to give him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. In Collective Worship we explored the meaning of these gifts and learnt that God has also given us a gift, the gift of 2024, all 365 days just for us.

Reading For Pleasure



Reading is the gateway to knowledge, and that's why in school we focus on phonics and comprehension as well as reading for pleasure and facts. We then use our reading skills across the curriculum to gain new knowledge. Please help your child at home by reading at least three times a week. Reading really is a super power that will boost your child's enjoyment of their learning all through life.

Times Tables – Practice, Practice, Practice

How does your child progress in their maths learning if they don't know their times tables? Well the answer is they can get stuck, and fractions, division, multiplication and problem solving all become very difficult. Please practice times tables with your child at tea time, in the car, walking to school. Make it fun, chant them together, but keep focused on learning all of them. Start with 2/5/10s in Year 1 and then by the end of Year 4 your child needs to know them all, then their maths will be flying.



School Dinners Are Free

Our school dinners are delicious and they are free to Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Children can choose what meal they want on the day. Try it out for a day or two, it will save you money and help out with the home budgeting.

Dates For Your Diary

Wednesdays

Warrenwood swimming and PE on Tuesdays as usual.

24th January for 6 days – our Woodland Area is being refenced so

please stay out of the woods.

5th to 9th Feb – Feel Good Week

Tues 6th Feb – Safer Internet Day

Tues 13th February – Shrove Tuesday/Lent

19th Feb to 23rd Feb – Half Term

Tues 19th March Parent/Teacher Consultations

Thurs 21st March Parent/Teacher Consultations

Thurs 28th March – End of Term

Great Attendance

We have been so pleased with the attendance at school since we have come back from the Christmas holidays. Practically all our children have been in school learning every day. Good attendance in primary school is all down to parents, so thank you to all our parents, and for those that haven't been in school we are looking forward to having you back. Have a look at the link below to see how to support your child's health this winter.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-67894937>



Do You Receive Benefits?

Do you receive benefits such as Universal Credit or Income Support? Then you could get free school meals and other benefits such as:

- school milk (Year 3 and over)
- food vouchers during school holidays
- SaverCard which gives half fare bus travel to 11-19 year olds (usually £20)
- help with music lesson fees
- free school holiday activity camps (www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/happy).

For each child that is eligible for a free school meal (through low income), our school will benefit from additional pupil premium funding which will help to improve education for disadvantaged pupils.

Please go to:

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

And we can help in the Office if you have any queries.

And Finally ...



Have a look at the curriculum maps attached to the end of this newsletter, one for each class, showing the topics and subjects that are being covered this term. Please look on the website where these are saved in Class Pages.

Have a great weekend from Ms Canham


Your Weekend Times Table Challenge

$4 \times 8 =$	$9 \times 4 =$	$4 \times 3 =$	$12 \times 4 =$	$7 \times 4 =$
$16 \div 4 =$	$36 \div 4 =$	$24 \div 4 =$	$12 \div 4 =$	$28 \div 4 =$
$4 \times 11 =$	$5 \times 4 =$	$7 \times 4 =$	$9 \times 4 =$	$1 \times 4 =$
$8 \div 4 =$	$44 \div 4 =$	$40 \div 4 =$	$12 \div 4 =$	$16 \div 4 =$
$4 \times 0 =$	$9 \times 4 =$	$4 \times 11 =$	$4 \times 2 =$	$7 \times 4 =$
$28 \div 4 =$	$20 \div 4 =$	$32 \div 4 =$	$36 \div 4 =$	$40 \div 4 =$

Key Text:
Shackleton's Journey by William Grill

Harefield
Curriculum Information
Spring 1-2024
Magnificent Mountains!



In Maths we will be ...

- Learning about place value for decimal numbers
- Writing decimal equivalents to fractions
- Multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1,000
- Problem solving with ratio and proportion
- Reading and writing coordinates
- Understanding reflection and translation

In Science we will be ...

- Reviewing our knowledge of forces
- Investigating the relationship between mass and gravity
- Understanding how air resistance acts on objects
- Designing and testing parachutes

In Computing we will be ...

- Identifying how barcodes and QR codes work
- Recognising how infrared waves transmit data
- Using Excel to input, analyse and evaluate data

In PE we will be ...

- Developing dribbling skills
- Sending and receiving a ball with control
- Moving into and creating space
- Apply skills to a hockey tournament

In English we will be ...

- Inspired by the text 'Shackleton's Journey' to write recounts, fact files, letters, speeches and reports.
- Applying persuasive features to write a cautionary narrative inspired by Mary Howitt's 'The Spider and the Fly'.

In Geography we will be ...

- Locating mountain ranges
- Understanding contour lines
- Explaining how different types of mountains are formed

In Music we will be ...

- Developing our voices to sing 'A New Year Carol' by Benjamin Britten

In RE we will be ...

- Engaging with key questions about what will last forever
- Reflecting on Christian wedding vows
- Exploring the concepts of agape, eternity and the Trinity

In Art and Design we will be ...

- Developing watercolour techniques
- Learning about the artists Monet, Hockney and Hokusai and their depictions of water
- Making and using printing blocks

In PSHE we will be thinking about ...

- Respect, stereotypes and resolving disputes through the unit 'Family and Relationships'

Home learning



- Home reading is completed **daily** and noted in the record.
- A maths and grammar home learning task will be set weekly on Thursday and collected in on **Monday**.
- The times tables for the week will be introduced on Monday and **tested on Friday**.
- 10 spellings (5 curriculum, 5 personal) will be set on Monday and **tested on Friday**.

Our value this term is:
Love others


Key information

- PE takes place on a **Tuesday**.
- Bring outdoor shoes or Wellingtons when wet and coats everyday please.
- You can connect the Harefield team about your child's learning using following email address:
Harefield@essendon.herts.sch.uk

Key Text: Wallace and Gromit Cracking Contraptions Manual

Warrenwood
Curriculum information
Spring Term 2024
Romans



In Maths we will be ...

- Using formal methods for division
- Learning to solve word problems using division.
- Dividing by 10 and 100
- Beginning to learn about fractions.
- Calculating length and perimeter

In PE we will be ...

- Developing tracking skills
- Developing throwing techniques
- Developing catching skills
- Developing our swimming skills

In PSHE we will be thinking about ...

- What economic wellbeing is
- How to use and budget with money
- Career choice

In English we will be ...

- Reading and discussing an increasingly wide range of non-fiction
- Creating suspense in our writing
- Designing our own 'cracking contraptions' and writing explanation texts.
- Beginning our own myth writing

In Science we will be ...

- Making simple circuits
- Planning investigations
- Looking at conductors and insulators
- Making a simple switch and testing it in a circuit.

In History we will be ...

- Exploring how the Roman empire grew
- Exploring the Roman invasion of Britain
- Learning about new Roman roads and towns
- Finding out about Boudicca
- Researching Hadrian's Wall

In RE we will be ...

- Learning about Judaism
- Learning about the story of Passover
- Exploring Passover traditions

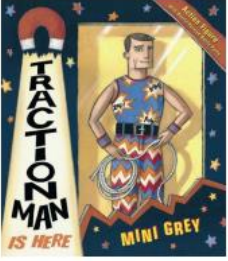
Our value this term is **Love Others**

We will be asking...


- What does this look like?
- How can we make others feel valued?

Reminders...

- Make sure you read at home every night and sign reading records
- PE takes place on a **Tuesday**
- Swimming takes place on a **Wednesday**
- Outdoor shoes or Wellingtons for playing outside please.
- Spelling tests are every **Thursday**
- Times tables will be tested on a **Friday**



Key Text:
Traction Man is Here
by Mini Grey




Homewood
Curriculum Information
Spring Term 2024
Toys


In Maths we will be ...

- Adding and subtracting
- Counting forwards & backwards in tens from any number
- Recalling facts of the 2, 5 and 10 times tables
- Place value
- Recognising coins and using money to make amounts and find change.

In English we will be ...

- Reading a range of fiction and non-fiction texts around our topics of changes – toys and materials.
- Using drama and role play
- Writing in role
- Reading and writing poetry
- Practising handwriting skills
- Continue a phonics program and continue learning spelling rules and patterns.





In RE we will be ...

- Studying Judaism – the relationship Jews have with God.
- The festival of Passover.
- Is God important to everybody?
- The promises Jews make with God.
- Should people follow religious leaders and teachings?
- Jewish practices and ways of life.

In Topic we will be...

- Comparing old and new toys
- Creating a Class Toy Museum
- Looking at how the types of toys have changed over time.
- Comparing materials used in old and new toys.
- Thinking about how environmental factors and changes in lifestyles have influenced how we spend our free time.

In Science we will be ...

- Exploring objects and the materials they are made from
- Comparing different objects made from the same material
- Learning how some materials are made
- Thinking about recycling and the environment

In PSHE we will be thinking about ...

- Economic Wellbeing – thinking about needs and wants
- Bank accounts

In Computing we will be ...

- Learning about algorithms and debugging
- Planning, devising and creating algorithms


In DT we will ...

- Learning how to join fabrics
- Designing and making a puppet

Reminders...

- Make sure you read at home every night and sign reading records.
- PE takes place on a **Friday**.
- **Collective worships** will be at 2:40pm

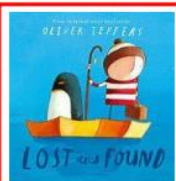
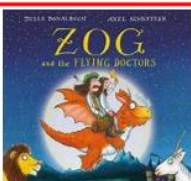
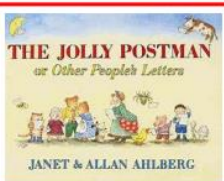

Our value this term is Love Others






Pantherswood Spring term 1 Overview

Class teacher – Miss Griffiths - Teaching Assistants – Miss Sharman, Miss Holding

In the early years foundation stage (nursery and reception), we deliver our curriculum following children's interests, planned topics, subject sequences. We have three core areas within the EYFS stator framework: Communication and language, personal, social and emotional development and physical development. These three areas are key for children to develop the skills and understanding needed to support the four foundation areas which are: literacy, mathematics, understanding the word and expressive art and design.

Communication and Language

Talking about my family, friends and special celebrations
Develop understanding of new vocabulary from our topic/ core book
Asking questions and reflecting on our learning

Physical Development

Fine Motor – busy finger activity every morning
Sand and water areas
Mark making opportunities
Gross motor – bikes, construction, ball games
Outdoor area with a range of play opportunities
Outdoor learning and forest school
P.E

Understand the World

Using our senses to investigate favourite tastes, textures, smells, sounds
Looking at similarities and differences in weather and countries around the world
Looking at people who help us and how we can help others in our community
Chinese New Year - Year of the Dragon

Core books for literacy

Throughout the spring term we will have three core books, lost and found, zog and the flying doctors, the jolly postman and the lunar new year that will guide our literacy lessons.
We will use these core books to explore different topics and ideas, supporting the children's interest throughout the children's Learning through Play.

Mathematics

Alive in 5
Capacity and mass
Numbers 7,8,9
Length, height, and time

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Zones of regulations
Circle time
Small group activities and structured games
Child: child interactions modelled and supported via adults

Expressive Art and Design

Colour mixing
Using different media inside and outside
Exploring how to create sounds with different instruments
Exploring their environments through forest school and Child Initiated Play

Literacy

Core books, nursery rhymes, vocabulary focus
Developing writing skills: Finger spaces, capital letters, letter formation, full stops, phonics skills



Within my Reach

An online programme for parents of neurodiverse children who are living together or apart

This programme is designed specifically for parents living together or apart, who are facing conflicts and struggling to find common ground in raising their neurodiverse child. This is a valuable opportunity to enhance relationships, strengthen parenting skills and create a more harmonious home environment.

Who should attend?

- Parents who are experiencing conflicts and challenges due to the neurodiversity of their child
- Parents who want to improve communication and build stronger partnership in parenting and co-parenting their neurodiverse child.
- Parents seeking guidance, support, and practical strategies to navigate the unique challenges of raising a neurodiverse child.



These 2 courses will be delivered by MS Teams, over 8 sessions, on the following dates/times:

- Tuesdays & Thursdays from 27th February to 21 March 2024, 7.00pm to 9.00pm
- Wednesdays & Saturdays from 28th February to 23 March 2024, (Wednesday 7.00pm to 9.00pm & Saturday 10am -12pm)

For more information or to make a referral, scan the QR code, email services@familylives.org.uk or call 0204 522 8700 or 0204 522 8699

SCAN ME



We build better family lives together

www.familylives.org.uk



@FamilyLivesHertsandBeds



Family Lives is registered as a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales No. 3817762. Registered charity No.1077722.
Registered address: 15-17 The Broadway, Hatfield, Hertfordshire, AL9 9QJ

Parenting SEN children when separated online programme



A 6-session programme, specifically tailored to help separated parents navigate the complexities of co-parenting and provide the best possible support for their SEND child. This is a valuable opportunity to enhance co-parenting skills, support children's development and build a strong foundation for the future.

Who should attend?

- Separated parents raising children with SEND.
- Parents seeking guidance, support, and strategies for co-parenting SEN children more consistently.
- Parents wanting to create a positive and supportive environment for their child's development.



Three courses will be delivered by MS Teams, from 7pm to 9pm, over 6 sessions, on the following dates:

- Thursdays: 11, 18 & 25 January and 1, 8 & 15 February 2024
- Mondays: 29 January, 5, 12 & 26 February and 4 & 11 March 2024
- Mondays & Wednesday: 29, 31 January & 5, 7, 12, 14 February 2024

For more information or to make a referral, scan the QR code, email services@familylives.org.uk or call 0204 522 8700 or 0204 522 8699

SCAN ME



We build better family lives together

www.familylives.org.uk



@FamilyLivesHertsandBeds



Family Lives is registered as a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales No. 3817762. Registered charity No.1077722. Registered address: 15-17 The Broadway, Hatfield, Hertfordshire, AL9 5JZ



Essendon C of E (VC) Primary School

Term Dates: 2023/2024

Autumn Term - 2023

Friday 1st September – **INSET Day** – staff only

Monday 4th September – Start of term for pupils – 8:40am doors open, doors close at 8:50am

Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October – Half Term

Wednesday 20th December – End of Term - 1:15pm

Spring Term - 2024

Thursday 4th January – **Occasional Day** – School Closed

Friday 5th January – **INSET Day** – staff only

Monday 8th January – Start of term for pupils

Monday 19th to Friday 23rd February - Half Term

Thursday 28th March - End of Term – 1:15pm

Summer Term - 2024

Monday 15th April – **INSET Day** – staff only

Tuesday 16th April – Start of term for pupils

Monday 6th May – Bank Holiday

Monday 27th to Friday 31st May – Half Term

Thursday 11th July – Year 6 Secondary School Transition Day

Friday 19th July – End of term - 1:15pm

Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd July – **INSET Days** – staff only